

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0008] of the Specification with the following, amended paragraph:

**[0008]** As a switch, device 102 may be used to route packets between devices 110-124 and may be useful to implement a computer network possibly having other such switches. Each device 110-124 may couple via a communication link to a port associated with the switch 102. The communication link comprises a plurality of conductors. The ports are shown in Figure 1 as ports 130-~~138~~ **[[136]]**. Device 110 couples to switch 102 via communication link 111 to port 130. Device 112 may have two communication links 113 and 115 to switch ports 132 and 134. Devices 114-120 couple to switch 102 via links 117-123 to port 136, while device 122 and 124 couple to switch 102 via links 125, 127 to port 138.

Please replace paragraph [0009] of the Specification with the following, amended paragraph:

**[0009]** Each port 130-138 may comprise a plurality of bus signals including, for example, address signals, data signals and control signals. Although any of a variety of bus standards may be implemented to interconnect the ports 130-~~138~~ **[[128]]** with their respective external devices 110-124, in accordance with at least some embodiments, the PCI-X standard may be used. In accordance with the PCI-X standard, each PCI-X communication link may be implemented as a 64 bit link, 32 bit link, or 16 bit link. In general, however, the bit width of the communication links can be varied and is not a limitation on this disclosure including the claims unless otherwise specified.

Please replace paragraph [0011] of the Specification with the following, amended paragraph:

**[0011]** Referring still to Figure 1, port 136 is configured into four “sub-ports” 136a-136d, each sub-port able to be coupled to a separate device and function

as an independent port. The term “sub-port” is used simply to distinguish it from a port of which the sub-port is a part. As such, sub-ports may also be referred to as ports and generally sub-ports function similarly or identically to ports. Sub-port 136a couples via link 117 to device 114. Similarly, sub-port 136b, c and d couple via links 119, 121 and 123 to device 116, 118 and 120, respectively. Port 138 also is divided into multiple independently operable sub-ports. Sub-port 138a may couple via communication link 125 to device 122, while sub-port 138b may couple via link 127 to device 124. Thus, each port may be configured as a single port to a single device or as a plurality of sub-ports to a plurality of devices. As a plurality of sub-ports, each sub-port may be connected to a separate device or two or more sub-ports may be connected to the same device.

Please replace paragraph [0018] of the Specification with the following, amended paragraph:

**[0018]** As noted above, the programmable port registers 106 may be used to configure the switch’s ports 130-138 during initialization or dynamically during run-time. Software 140 running on a central processing unit (“CPU”) 142 in computer 112, for example, may be used to program the registers 106. Such software generally may be aware of the number of devices to be coupled to switch 102 as well as the needed width of communication links to the devices. Such information may be determined or otherwise known as default values or from jumpers on a printed circuit in the switch 102. Further, the switch 102 may include a driver and associated graphical user interface (“GUI”). Via the GUI, a user may input such information into the configuration space allocated to the switch 102.